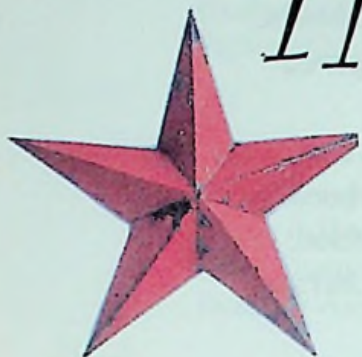


The Kalifornski

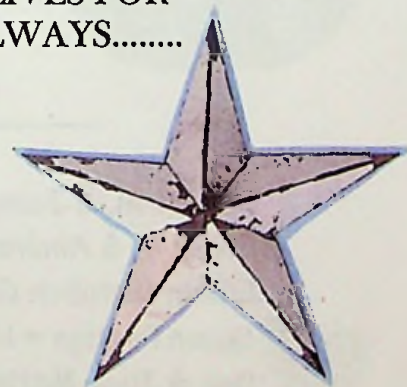
HAPPY 4th of JULY!!!



AS WE REMEMBER AND HONOR ALL OF OUR TROOPS
THAT ARE SERVING AND HAVE GIVEN THEIR LIVES FOR
OUR COUNTRY!!! LET'S REMEMBER THEM ALWAYS.....

NEWSLETTER OF THE SLAVIC-AMERICAN CULTURAL ORGANIZATION, INC.
P.O. BOX 226, WATSONVILLE, CALIFORNIA 95077
(A NON-PROFIT, NON-RELIGIOUS & NON-POLITICAL ORGANIZATION)

EDITORS:
Agnes Gospodnetić Mifsud
Nina Matulich



SUMMER 2007





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We had a very large turnout at the Rack of Lamb Dinner that was held on Saturday, April 14, 2007. A total of 196 were served, including 12 takeouts. Thanks to all who attended. Again, it was another fantastic meal prepared by Pete Kovacich and his crew.

Much thanks goes out to Nina Matulich on reservations, Mary Stefke on drink tickets, Helen Ukestad on raffle tickets, Agnes Mifsud and Barbara Rudisill on cake serving and raffle and table decorations by Agnes Mifsud. The great bartending duties were held by John Vodanovich and Mike Mifsud. More thanks to Nick Rajkovich for the green olives.

The speech on Croatian exchange students coming to this area by Marc DelPiero was quite interesting. Thank you.

Be sure to mark your calendars for our annual Bar-B-Que picnic at the Corralitas Padre Park on Sunday, July 8, 2007. SEE YOU THERE!

THANK YOU,
STEVE BELICK



S.A.C.O. OFFICERS

PRESIDENT ~ Steve Belick ~ 477-7523
VICE~PRESIDENT ~ Peter Kovacich ~ 724-0071
TREASURER ~ Jo Franich-Puhera ~ 724-8930
RECORDING SECRETARY ~ Linda Wathen-Espejo ~ 724-2892
FINANCIAL/CORRESPONDING SECRETARY ~ Nina Matulich ~ 724-7971

WELCOME NEW S.A.C.O MEMBERS!

Robert M. & Janey Leonardich ~ Watsonville
Frank G. & Almira A. Sieraski ~ Watsonville
Eileen Matulich Compagno ~ Castroville
Susan Postigo ~ Hollister
Don & June Matiasevich Melton ~ Watsonville
Art & Lucille Matiasevich Giorvas ~ Santa Clara
Barbara Gospodnetich Rudisill ~ Freedom
Lon R. Dugger & Annamarie Pavlovich Dugger ~ Aptos



NOTE: Nina,

Thanks for the "push". I really enjoy the newsletter and get togethers.

Annamarie Pavlovich Dugger



IN MEMORIAM

Peter Leonardich
83 years, April 6, 2007 ~ Salinas
Husband of Agnes Leonardich
Father of Michael and Christine



Sadly I must inform you that Kate Desin Radonich passed away at her home on Radonich Ranch in the Los Gatos area on August 3, 2006. Kate Desin was born on January 1, 1902 in the Durinici-Molunat area of Konavle. She married Billy Radonich on 1-1-1925, and lived her entire life in America on the ranch. She was also a former member of S.A.C.O.

Thank you,
Peter Radonich, Son



CALENDAR

July 8, 2007 ~ Sunday ~ BBQ Corralitas Padre Park
October 20, 2007 ~ Saturday ~ Dinner
December 15, 2007 ~ Saturday ~ Christmas Pork Dinner

CORRESPONDENCE

Hi SACO ~~~

We have decided to join so here is a check for our dues. We really enjoyed the lamb dinner~delicious! And, we saw so many of our friends. Thanks, Don & June Matiasovich Melton

Nina!

We really enjoyed the lamb dinner~felt like I was eating at my folks. Brought back so many memories. Was nice seeing your sister and others that I haven't seen in so long.

Lucille Matiasovich Giorvas



KATIE ALAGA-SMITH



55 PENNY LANE, SUITE 102
WATSONVILLE, CA 95076
CELL: (831) 334-9500
OFFICE: (831) 763-6730
FAX: (831) 763-6701

E-MAIL: KSMITH@DAVIDLYNG.COM
WWW.KATIEALAGA-SMITH.COM



LOVE MAKES THE WORLD GO AROUND,
BUT BEING CROATIAN MAKES IT WORTH
THE TRIP!!





HVALA PUNO(THANKS SO MUCH!) to all of you for the delicious desserts and the wonderful prizes that was so much enjoyed by all at our Rack of Lamb Dinner that was held on April, 14, 2007.

DESSERTS

Mary Basich
Steve Belick
Adeline Bettencourt
Ann Cernokus
Twoana Gross
Betty Jones
Joan Jurickovich
Peter Kraljev
Nina Matulich

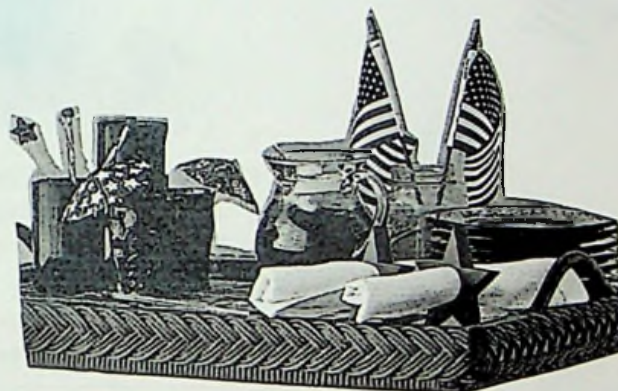
Agnes Mifsud
Ethlyn Miller
June Pierce
Jo Puhera
Mary Siefke
Helen Ukestad
Jacqueline Zadravec
Slavica Zalac
Mary Lipanovich



RAFFLE PRIZES

Alice Bankhead
Steve Belick
Betty Bobeda
Thelma Dorey
Ruth Fiorovich
Nita Gizdich
Diane Gribble
John Korach
Betty Jones
Nina Matulich
Agnes Mifsud
Frances Osorio

Linda Pavlovich
Mary Pilo
Bill Resetar
Gladys Rodrigues
S.A.C.O.
Silvio Skefich
Ann Soldo
Helen Ukestad
John Vodanovich
Jacqueline Zadravec
Frank Nigro



HAPPY 4th OF JULY!
Nina Matulich



CONGRATULATIONS!

S.A.C.O. Scholarship Recipients (Class of 2007)
Awarding \$400.00 each to:

WATSONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

Jaime Nicole Skocko ~ Daughter of Jeff & Mary Skocko
Granddaughter of Dick Skocko

APTOS HIGH SCHOOL

Miles Belick ~ Son of Steve & Karen Belick (SACO members)
Grandson of the late Geri Jelacich Belick(was a SACO member)
Samantha Lynn Ritchie ~ Daughter of Sibyll Kusalich Olson
Granddaughter of Radeen Kusalich
Kiersten Sambrailo ~ Daughter of Mark & Karen Sambrailo
(SACO members)
Granddaughter of the late Bill Sambrailo
(was a SACO member)



2007



ADVENTURES IN CROATIA!

If you're the adventurous traveler and love to swim, then you would venture out to the Šibenik Islands in Croatia. Just think, if you were treading water near shore and you saw an island in the distance that seemed just close enough to swim to, then here's your chance to try it with other swimmers as part of Swim Trek's Croatia journey. Depending on the trip you choose, either Prvic or Zlarin, they are both part of the untrodden Šibenik archipelago. Days are spent exploring the islands of the Kornati National Park, Krka National Park and other natural wonders. Water temperatures are warmest in August at about 79 degrees. Departure vary from June through October. For more info, go to swimtrek.com or ISLANDS.COM. Source: "Islands" Magazine



CRUISING IN CROATIA!

How would you like to charter a yacht and sail among the idyllic islands? There are more than 1,000 islands that make Croatia one of the world's best cruising destinations. The water is crystal clear, unspoiled and nature is simply supreme. You can chart your own course, sail where you wanted, when you wanted and anchor wherever you wish to. With Croatia's balmy climate, you can soak up the sun and swim for hours and enjoy the relaxed atmosphere. In June, mornings and evenings are quiet, but in the peak summer months of July and August are the best months. Sailing along the Croatian Coast and among its multitude of islands is a slow-paced vacation. For more info, go to: www.sunsail.com or www.moorings.com. Source: Travelgirl 2007 Submitted by: Agnes Mifsud

ISTRIA-JEWEL OF THE ADRIATIC

The heart-shaped Istrian Peninsula, north of the Adriatic Sea is bordered with lush valleys that are blanketed with olive groves, figs, vineyards and truffle-laden forests. It's coastal cities are full of sunny piazzas, Roman ruins and medieval hill towns – today's Dalmatian Coast hot spot. Istria is relatively untapped. There are no busloads of tourists and there is still an absence of crowds. You can find quiet coastal enclaves, such as the pine-tree shaded fishing village of Savudrija. A few miles inland, the active beach scene melts into the Tuscanesque landscape, especially in the Mirna Valley, full of wheat fields, vineyards and overseen by medieval mountain fortresses. While you're in Istria, you will enjoy the truffles and the local wines (try a bottle of Malvasia) and if you love the beach, you can set up camp on the lush 250 mile Adriatic coast. In the stunning port town of Rovinj, you can book a room at the Villa Angelo D'oro and stop by the nearby Veli Joze for the sea bass. The fashion baron Brioni is said to be opening a spa on the Istrian island of Veliki Brijun this year.

Submitted by : Nina Matulich
"Condé Nast" Traveler Magazine, May 07 issue
and Town & Country Travel Magazine, Summer 07





ISTRIA - The Next Get-away!

The sun-washed, beach-laden coast is caressed by the unbelievably blue Adriatic. The best way to tour the Adriatic is by sail – with a chart but without a guide book. Every tiny port town has a dock, red/yellow washed walls and outdoor cafés serving fish brought in by the locals fresh that morning. In every town, you can spend afternoons wandering-a maze of cobbled streets, hidden courtyards and on the outskirts, you can find vineyards and olive groves.

Through the Istrian highlands, in the Mirna Valley, you can find one of Europe's tastiest truffles. The supply of truffles is so great that they are on the menus of nearly every regional restaurant and quite a gourmet treat! The largest white truffle ever found is from Istria, weighing in at 2.89 lbs. Although getting there involves a series of hairpin, backup curves. To celebrate your discovery, you would want to enjoy a glass of local grappa, which is a local brandy flavored with honey that is most often served in every town konoba(cellar). It is customary to serve grappa to the table after dinner.

Along the coast of Istria, you will find fishermen's festivals happening all summer long. They are celebrations for the town and tourists alike with lots of music, dancing and lots of seafood being served up by the locals, booth after booth. In the tiny town of Vrsar, you will find a band playing Croatian folk music and then you'll find another band playing Elvis, which is surprising, but very cool! So, it goes to show that Elvis is really the King no matter what country you visit! When it comes to dancing, Croatia boasts some of the world's most spectacular dances, from magical sword dances to the remarkable drmes(pronounced DRR-mish), a traditional "shaking" step reserved for weddings and other celebrations. Festivals of music and dance pack the Croatian calendar year round. The oldest and one of the biggest is Brodska Kolo, a rousing affair highlighted by brightly colored, handcrafted "peasant" costumes, wearable art that expresses the free-spirited exuberance of people who know how to have fun!!

The waters of the Adriatic melt from turquoise green to the deepest of lapis blues. It's so beautiful to look at, but it's no surfer's paradise because there is hardly a ripple much less a wave to be found. It is, however, ideal for swimming. With absolute calmness, which is due to a higher-than-usual saline content in the water. That comes in quite handy especially if you have just overindulged on scampi and gelato!

It's a magical place and a wonderful introduction to the beauty of Croatia!

Submitted by: Franny Derpich Colendich

The Territory Ahead clothing catalog magazine dedicated the entire spring issue to ISTRIA, CROATIA.

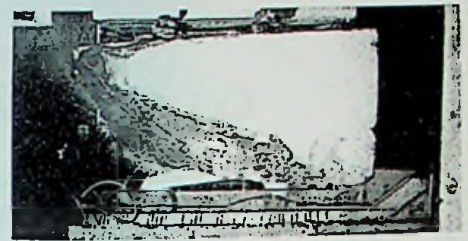
The Fisherman's Glow

Prije jutra u zoru, sa galebima na moru...". "Before the morning in the dawn, with the seagulls at the sea..." *Croatian folk song*

Dozens of songs in Croatian folk culture tell tales of fishing and the sea. Not surprising when you consider that long before Croatia became Croatia, men have been venturing from coastal Istria into the lapis blue waters of the Adriatic to make their living. Most songs sing of the small fisherman. These are men without big fishing boats, large nets and huge catches. Their days aren't defined by work shifts, world markets, rush hours or crowded elevators. Their days and lives are managed by Mother Nature – the moon and the sun, the tide, winds and sea. Afternoons are used for patching nets and preparing the hooks, floats and leads. As days come to a close you'll see them on the piers, watching the sky and the water for some departure signal known only to them. Then, when the sun drops into the sea, they sail. Armed with skill, tradition, patience and several ancestors' worth of gear – *mrizhe*, *trapule*, *palingari* and *tunje* – that have been lovingly cared for, they fish until sunrise draws them back into port. It's a timeless rhythm that has been repeated daily up and down the coast for generations. You will always know a fisherman when you meet him. His story is written on his hands and face, and especially his eyes – they have a glow that can only come from a life spent at sea.



A REVOLUTION IN ROCK



To the Stonemasons on the Croatian Island of Brač, Limestone is more than a treasured natural resource: It's GOT SOUL!

"ON BRAČ, MAN IS BORN ON STONE, he lives closely with stone and he rests in peace forever under stone", says an old Croatian waiter at a café in the port city of Split, the bustling center of the Dalmatian coast. While waiting for the ferry to Brač, which is a mountainous island of pine forests, vineyards and olive groves, the hour ride to the southeast, across the gem-blue Adriatic Sea, is Brač's most important gift to the world, Limestone. Brač limestone is used across the globe, from the Champs-Elysees to the Hungarian Parliament in Budapest to the Ionic columns of the White House in Washington, D.C., not to mention the kitchen countertops of a home near you.

In geological terms, the sedimentary limestone beds that make up the craggy 150-square-mile island of Brač were formed 60 million to 90 million years ago, during the late Cretaceous period. Modern man has been quarrying this malleable Brač stone for nearly 2,000 years. Limestone is soft and easy to sculpture when it comes out of the ground, but it hardens when exposed to air, making it an ideal building material. The first major excavation came in the 4th century, when the Roman emperor Diocletian used hundreds of tons of it to build his imperial "white palace" in Split. The stonemasons still use the same means as their ancient Roman brethren; a basic set of hand tools that includes a small pickaxe, a mallet and a chisel. Despite more recent mechanization, hand craftsmanship is still widely practiced by the artisans of Brač. One company that reflects both this storied past and the industrialized present is Jadrankamen, based in Pučišća, a picturesque port town on Brač's northern coast. What's now a multi-million-dollar business that produces 25,000 cubic tons of limestone per year was originally formed in 1902 out of a guild of stonemasons who banded together so they could buy a steam saw.

In 1995-the end of the Croatian War of Independence, Croatia produced 50,000 cubic meters of limestone, a decade later, that number has more than doubled. Jadrankamen produce almost 8,500 of blocks a year (3 yds. long, 2 yds. thick, weighing over 30,000 lbs.). About 15% are sold to outside finishing companies, mostly in Italy. The rest are used in the Jadrankamen factory, where they're turned into everything from tiles and countertops to fountains and staircases. The only limit is a customer's imagination and their bank account according to Nikša Matulić, Jadrankamen's technical manager. Brač still produces a constant supply of fine stone craftsmen, thanks to the Klesarska Škola, the island's stonemason school, established in 1909. Housed in a pristine three-story building that overlooks Pučišća harbor, the state-sponsored institution is part high school and part vocational training center. Its 110 students, ages 14-18, spend half their time in the classroom-studying languages, math and construction theory and half sculpturing limestone. Ninety-five percent of this is done by hand, with chisels and hammers, which is the best way to teach the students the feeling of the stone, which is the school's mantra. "If they fear the stone, they'll never become good masons," says headmaster Tonči Vlahović. "You're only as good as your hands will allow." After spending several summers apprenticing, many join Jadrankamen's klaseria, a large, hangar-like corner of the factory, where the high-end, one-of-a-kind work happens. This is where all the specialty pieces are made, carved by hand from the finest limestone on Brač. "The rest of what Jadrankamen does is industry," Matulić says. "But this is art."



Tools



Klesarska
Škola

A dozen men in blue overalls are creating decorative pieces for a castle near Zagreb, the capital of Croatia. They work solo, taking their time with the hammer and chisels as they bring the stone to life.

Because the civil war damaged so many of Croatia's historic buildings, the company has been very busy on this front for the past decade. One such project recently completed is the Hilton Imperial, in Dubrovnik's fabled Old City. Jadrankamen supplied tons of stone, along with a crew of klaseria workmen, to help restore the five-star property, which finally reopened in May 2005.

"The stone is hard," says former Klesarska Škola student Josip Martinic, now the foreman of the klaseria. "But it has soul. With the right knowledge, experience, and especially the right feeling about the stone, you can make anything you wish from it." Much of Croatia's future, it seems, will be built of this optimistic spirit, along with the limestone on which it rests.

NOTE: The first monument honouring Mother Teresa was carved in Supetar on the Island of Brač in 2002. It was unveiled by the actor, Martin Sheen.

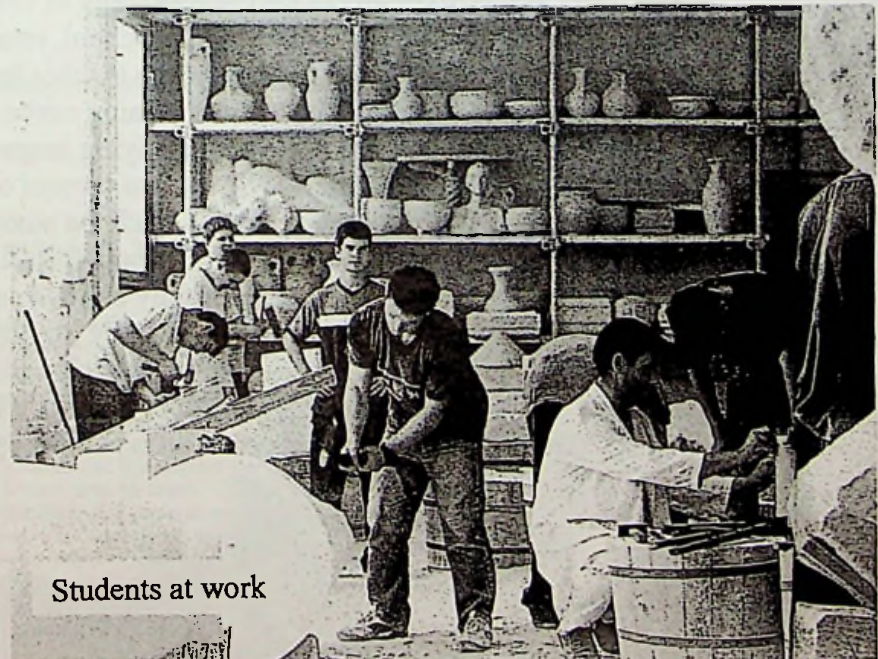
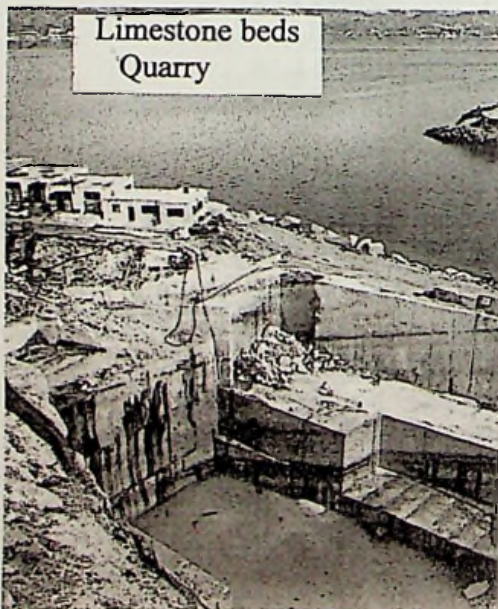


Monument of
Mother Teresa

Submitted by: Antoinette Lukrich
The "Lexus" magazine – May 07 issue



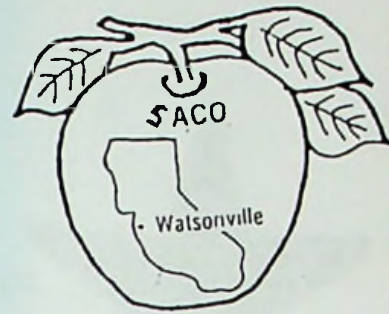
Port town of Pučića



Students at work

YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS ARE INVITED TO

**SLAVIC-AMERICAN
CULTURAL ORGANIZATION**



ANNUAL BAR - B - Q

Sunday, July 8, 2007

Corralitos Community Center - Padres Park



GET ACQUAINTED TIME - 12:00 pm

SERVING - 2:00 pm

Tri-Tip, Chicken, Pork Ribs, plus other goodies!

Bar-B-Q by Peter Kovacich

Music by the Novi Stari Tamburitza

Paid reservations must be received by Tuesday, July 3, 2007

Please MAIL checks and make payable to:

S.A.C.O.

P.O. Box 226

Watsonville, CA 95077

MEMBERS-Cakes for desserts and prizes for the drawing will be welcome.

For information: Nina 831-724-7971

\$15.00 - Adults / \$5.00 children under 12

NO TICKETS SOLD AT DOOR



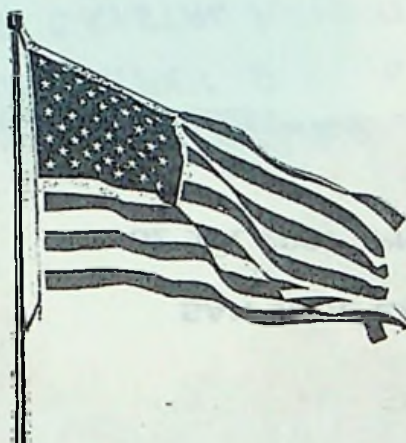


UNITED STATES NATIONAL ANTHEM

"THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER"



Oh, say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hail'd at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?



CROATIAN NATIONAL ANTHEM

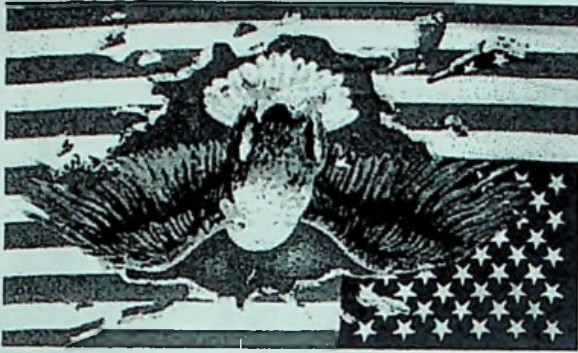
"LIJEPA NASA DOMOVINO"

Lijepa nasa Domovino
Oj junacka zemljo mila,
Stare slave djedovino,
Da bi vazda sretna bila!
Mila kano si nam slavna,
Mila si nam ti jedina,
Mila kuda sin am ravna,
Mila kuda si planina!
Teci Savo, Dravo teci,
Nit ti, Dunav, silu gubi!
Sinje more, svijetu reci,
Da svoj narod Hrvat ljubi!
Dok mu njive sunce grije,
Dok mu hrasce bura vije,
Dok mu mrtve grobak krije,
Dok mu zivo srce bije!

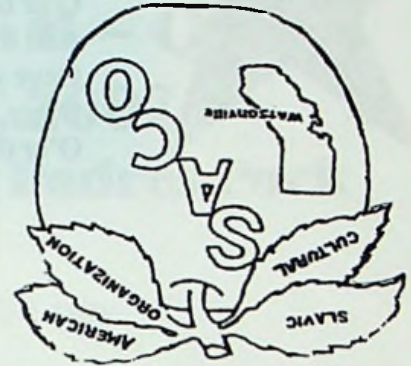


OUR BEAUTIFUL HOMELAND

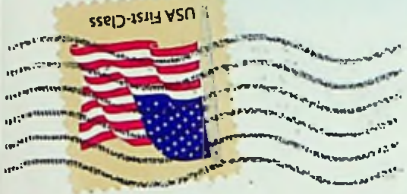
Our beautiful homeland,
O so fearless and gracious.
Our fathers' ancient glory,
May you be blessed forever.
Dear, you are our only glory,
Dear, you are our only one,
Dear, we love your plains,
Dear, we love your mountains.
Sava, Drava, keep on flowing,
Danube, do not lose your vigour,
Deep blue sea, tell the world,
That a Croat loves his homeland
Whilst his fields are kissed by sunshine,
Whilst his oaks are whipped by wild winds
Whilst his dear ones go to heaven,
Whilst his live heart beats.



DATED MATERIAL - Please Rush

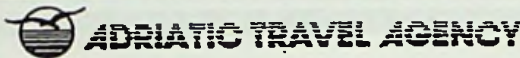


STEFAN KAREN BALK
3155 ERYSTAL HEIGHTS DRIVE
SODUKL, CA. 95073



02 JUL 2007 PM 6 L
SAN JOSE CA 951

THE SLAVIC-AMERICAN
CULTURAL ORGANIZATION, INC.
P.O. Box 226
Watsonville, CA 95077



CST # 1013114-10

JELKA BASOR
Manager

948 East Lake Avenue, Watsonville, CA 95076
Bus.: (831) 728-7766 / FAX: (831) 728-0379
e-mail: adriaticjb@aol.com



JOHN BASOR
REALTOR®

(831) 728-4276 BUS., (831) 728-0251 FAX
(831) 728-5605 RESIDENCE
adriaticjb@aol.com E-MAIL



CAMPOS
REAL ESTATE
617 E LAKE AVE.
WATSONVILLE, CA 95076

Each Office is Independently
Owned And Operated.



Spomenka Zaninovich

Broker Associate

DIRECT: 831-840-5519
Pajaro Dunes: 831-768-2685
Fax: 831-763-9730
e-mail: spomenkazz@yahoo.com



933 Freedom Blvd.
Watsonville, CA 95076



ROCKY FRANICH

MARTY FRANICH FORD

550 AUTO CENTER DRIVE
WATSONVILLE, CA 95076-3728

PHONE
BUS. 831-722-4181



SCURICH
INSURANCE
SERVICES



Ralph Miljanich
Associate Financial Advisor
Assistant Branch Manager

716 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

toll-free 800 488 3436
tel 831 426 4500
direct 831 457 4358
fax 831 423 5003
CA Ins. Lic. # 0A73922

Morgan Stanley

ralph.miljanich@morganstanley.com

320 EAST LAKE AVENUE • P.O. BOX 1170 • WATSONVILLE, CA 95077-1170
(831) 722-3541 • FAX (831) 722-1997
tony@scurichinsurance.com